SUPERMAN'S SHOWDOWN WITH VANDAL SAVAGE--
MILLIONS OF YEARS IN THE PAST!
50¢
ALL NEW!
NO. 516
FEB.
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SUPERMAN
STARRING IN
ACTION COMICS
VANDAL SAVAGE NEVER RUNS OUT OF DIABOLICAL SCHEMES! NOW HE HAS AN ARMY OF DINOSAURS!
ACTION-PLUS WITH THE ATOM!

ROCKETED AS A BABY FROM THE EXPLODING PLANET KRYPTON, KAL-EL GREW TO MANHOOD ON EARTH--WHOSE YELLOW SUN AND LIGHTER GRAVITY GAVE HIM FANTASTIC SUPER-POWERS! IN THE CITY OF METROPOLIS, HE POSES AS MILD-MANNERED NEWSMAN CLARK KENT--BUT BATTLES EVIL ALL OVER EARTH--AND BEYOND--AS...

SUPERMAN

Created by JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER

TRUE OR FALSE: EVERYTHING YOU KNOW ABOUT HISTORY IS WRONG! ROME WAS NEVER SET AFIRE BY NERO! THE GRAND EGYPTIAN CIVILIZATION NEVER FLOURISHED! COLUMBUS FAILED TO DISCOVER AMERICA!

TRUE OR FALSE: VANDAL SAVAGE, A MUTATED CRO-MAGNON, HAS RULED AS EARTH'S EMPEROR FOR AS LONG AS MAN CAN REMEMBER!

TRUE OR FALSE: DON'T ANSWER UNTIL YOU HAVE READ...

VANDAL SAVAGE MURDERED LOIS LANE--

--AND FOR THAT EVIL ACT-- HE WILL PAY!

"TIME AND TIME AGAIN!"

S-3522

MARV WOLFMAN WRITER / CURT SWAN PENCILLER / FRANK CHIARAMONTE INKER / BEN ODA LETTERER / GENE D'ANGELO COLORIST / JULIUS SCHWARTZ EDITOR

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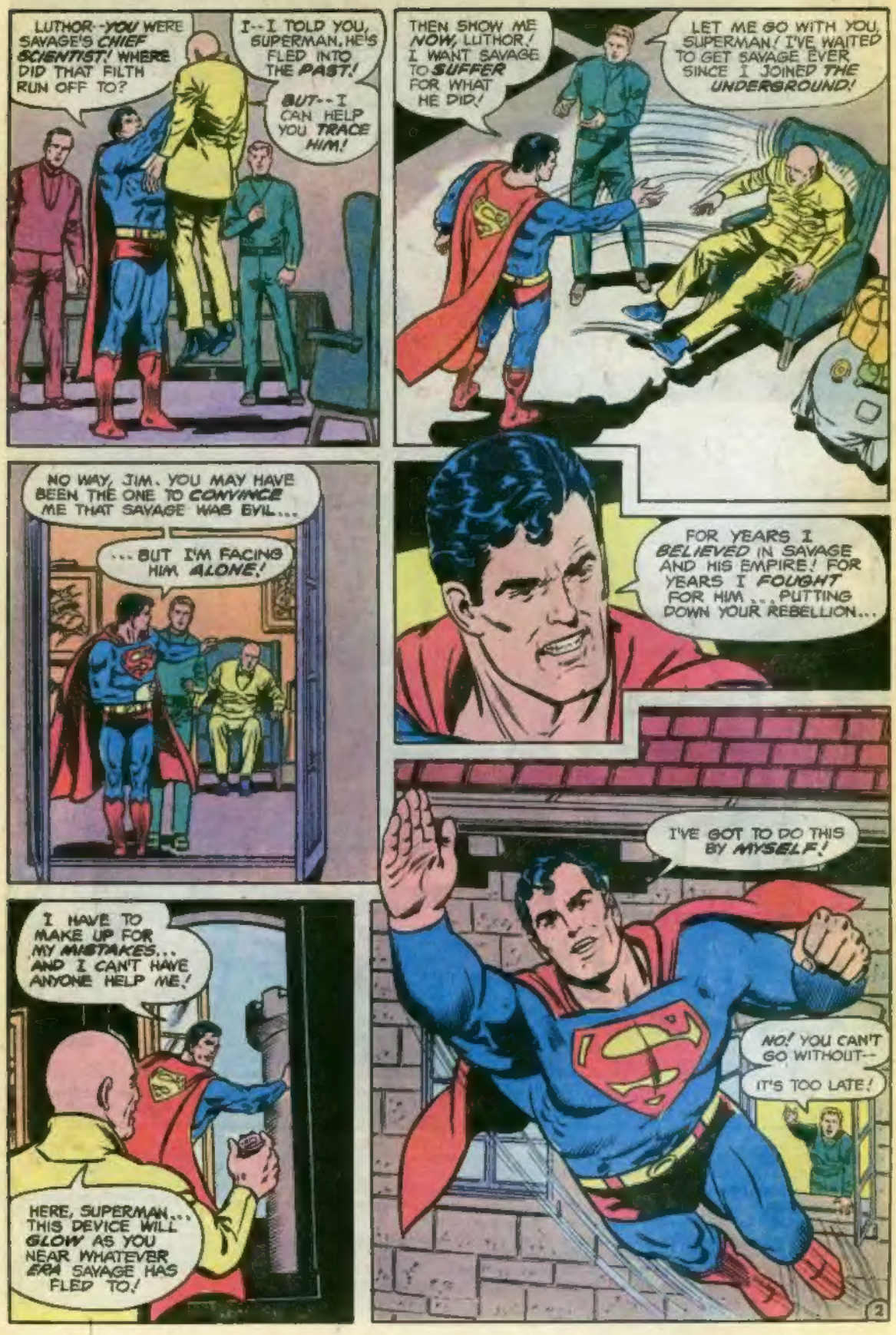
LUTHOR--YOU WERE SAVAGE'S CHIEF SCIENTIST! WHERE DID THAT FILTH RUN OFF TO?
I--I TOLD YOU, SUPERMAN, HE'S FLED INTO THE PAST!
BUT--I CAN HELP YOU TRACE HIM!
THEN SHOW ME NOW, LUTHOR! I WANT SAVAGE TO SUFFER FOR WHAT HE DID!
LET ME GO WITH YOU, SUPERMAN! I'VE WAITED TO GET SAVAGE EVER SINCE I JOINED THE UNDERGROUND!
NO WAY, JIM. YOU MAY HAVE BEEN THE ONE TO CONVINCE ME THAT SAVAGE WAS EVIL...
...BUT I'M FACING HIM ALONE!
FOR YEARS I BELIEVED IN SAVAGE AND HIS EMPIRE! FOR YEARS I FOUGHT FOR HIM...PUTTING DOWN YOUR REBELLION...
I'VE GOT TO DO THIS BY MYSELF!
I HAVE TO MAKE UP FOR MY MISTAKES... AND I CAN'T HAVE ANYONE HELP ME!
HERE, SUPERMAN... THIS DEVICE WILL GLOW AS YOU NEAR WHATEVER ERA SAVAGE HAS FLED TO!
NO! YOU CAN'T GO WITHOUT--
IT'S TOO LATE!
2

THE MAN OF STEEL IS GRIM AS HE ARCS TOWARD THE STRATOSPHERE...
THOUGH I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY TRAVELED INTO THE PAST BEFORE, I'M CERTAIN IT'S POSSIBLE!
BY FLYING COUNTER-CLOCKWISE TO THE EARTH'S ROTATION, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO BREAK THROUGH THE TIME BARRIER!

HE STRAINS AS HIS SPEED INCREASES. WITHIN MOMENTS HE HAS PASSED THE SPEED OF SOUND. SECONDS LATER, HE OVERTAKES THE SPEED OF LIGHT...
THEN...

SUPERMAN'S MADE IT-- INTO THE PAST! YOUR MASTER HASN'T ESCAPED, YET!
BAH! SAVAGE ISN'T MY MASTER! HE'S AS MUCH A FOOL AS YOU ARE, OLSEN!

AND I PRAY YOUR MUCH VAUNTED SUPERMAN GIVES HIM ALL HE DESERVES!
THEN, WITH THE SECRETS I'VE LEARNED THESE PAST WEEKS, LUTHOR SHALL BECOME THE NEW EMPEROR OF THE EARTH!

IT'S ALMOST OVER WITH, PERRY... SUPERMAN WILL CAPTURE SAVAGE... I'M SURE OF IT!
BUT... WHY DID LOIS HAVE TO DIE? WHY, WHEN WE WERE SO CLOSE TO VICTORY?

BUT AT LEAST HER DEATH GAVE US AN ALLY IN SUPERMAN.
BECAUSE OF LOIS LANE, THE EARTH STANDS A CHANCE AT BEING FREE!

GERMANY, JUNE 6, 1944...
THE SMALL MAN ANGRILY PACES THROUGH THE WAR ROOM, SPUTTERING INVECTIVES AT THE FRIGHTENED GENERALS GROUPED BEFORE HIM...
VOT DO YOU SVINE MEAN THE ALLIES ARE PLANNING A MAJOR ATTACK?
VERE VILL DEY ATTACK? VEN? VIT HOW MANY OF DERE VOODEN SOLDIERS?
VELL, SPEAK UP! DON'T VUN OF YOU HAF A TONGUE IN YOUR STUPID MOUTHS?
FÜHRER, DEY COULD ATTACK ANYVHERE! THROUGH DER NETHERLANDS, UP FROM ITALY, EEFEN SWEEP THROUGH FRANCE!
SVINE! I DON'T VANT YOUR STUPID THEORIES! I VANT FACTS!
THEN, HERR HITLER, PERHAPS I CAN BE OF SERVICE!
VOT-- A SPY? HE COMES TO ASSASSINATE ME!
KILL HIM, YOU FOOLS! KILL HIM BEFORE HE GETS TO ME!
I AM NOT AN ENEMY, HERR HITLER! I AM YOUR FRIEND!
AND I CAN HELP GERMANY WIN THE WAR--TONIGHT!
POOOMMM
ADOLF HITLER DOES NOT HAF FRIENDS! NO MAN IS MY EQUAL!
BUT, YOU SAY YOU CAN ASSURE US VICTORY? HOW--?
BY HEEDING MY EVERY WORD, FÜHRER! LET'S SPEAK PRIVATELY, EH?
4

I GAVE ORDERS-- VE VILL NOT BE DISTURBED! NOW, TALK!
MY SIGNAL-ALARM! SUPERMAN HAS ALMOST ENTERED THIS TIME-ERA AS I PLANNED!
LISTEN QUICKLY, HERR HITLER! THE ALLIES ARE ATTACKING EVEN NOW!
BUT I CAN DESTROY THOSE SOLDIERS IF YOU APPOINT ME VICE CHANCELLOR OF NAZI GERMANY!
YOU END DER ALLIED THREAT, AND YOU VILL HAF ANYTHING YOU VANT!
FROM MORE THAN 5,000 ALLIED SHIPS THEY COME, STORMING THE BEACHES OF NORMANDY, FRANCE...
IF ALL GOES ACCORDING TO PLAN, WITHIN DAYS FRANCE WILL BE FREED FROM NAZI CONTROL...
BUT, SUDDENLY, THE PLAN GOES AFOUL...
GOOD GOSH-- TIDAL WAVES!
BUT THEY'RE COMING FROM THE BEACH!?!
ACCORDING TO THIS SIGNAL, SAVAGE IS SOMEWHERE IN THIS ERA--RAO!
THOSE SOLDIERS --ABOUT TO BE DROWNED!
SHWWOOOSHHHH!
5
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

DON'T KNOW WHO THOSE SOLDIERS ARE OR WHAT'S GOING ON...
...BUT I'M NOT ABOUT TO LET THEM SIMPLY DIE!
SPINNING AROUND THE WAVES AT SUPER-SPEED SHOULD CREATE A VACUUM...
...SUCK THE WATER UP AWAY FROM THOSE MEN!
FOR SEVERAL MOMENTS ADOLF HITLER SITS IMPATIENTLY, BUT THEN...
VELL? VOT ARE YOU DOING? JUST DON'T STAND DERE!
SUPERMAN IS REACHING THE CRITICAL POINT... BUT I NEED EVEN MORE POWER...
MORE... MORE... MORE...!
IT ISN'T WORKING... I NEED TO MOVE FASTER... EXERT MORE POWER... OTHERWISE THOSE MEN ARE DOOMED!
EH--? SOMETHING'S EXPLODING...
BARROOOMM
HE SCREAMS AS THE CORUSCATING WAVES OVERTAKE HIM... SHATTERING HIS EVERY NERVE... RENDING HIS EVERY THOUGHT...
SPLLOOSH
AND, IN A MOMENT, THE MAN OF STEEL IS MERCIFULLY UNCONSCIOUS...
6

SUPERMAN HAS DONE IT... HE'S ACTIVATED MY FIRST TIME-BOMB!
VOT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? ANSWER ME!
YOU WISH AN ANSWER, HERR HITLER--?
MY TIDAL WAVES DESTROYED THE AMERICAN SOLDIERS...GERMANY WILL NOW WIN WORLD WAR TWO...
... AND YOU HAVE OUTLIVED YOUR USEFULNESS!
STOP! VOT ARE YOU DOING? I SAID STOP!
VANDAL SAVAGE STOPS FOR NO MAN!
NOT EVEN FOR YOU, HITLER... NOT EVEN FOR YOU!
AS VANDAL SAVAGE VANISHES FROM ONE TIME-ERA, WE MOVE INTO ANOTHER--
YOU SUCCEEDED, SAVAGE... BUT THIS IS ONLY A MINOR VICTORY! YOU HAVE NOT YET WON THE WAR!
WHAT WAR, LUTHOR?
WHAT IS THIS, LUTHOR? A VIDEO DISK OF SOME SORT?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH IT? TALK!
NEVER, OLSEN!
JIMMY MERELY SMILES AS SEVERAL GUARDS LEAD LUTHOR TO A SMALL LABORATORY...
I THINK YOU'LL TALK! REMEMBER YOUR "PERSUASIVE" DEVICE, LUTHOR? YOU ONCE USED IT ON ME!*
I WONDER IF YOU'LL BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND ITS... PRESSURE?
NO! DON'T DO IT, OLSEN. I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING!
* LAST ISSUE -- JULIE
7

YOU MUST UNDERSTAND, OLSEN, WHAT YOU'RE ABOUT TO SEE IS VIRTUALLY BEYOND BELIEF!
INDEED, EVEN WHEN I LEARNED THE TRUTH I REFUSED TO ACCEPT IT UNTIL THE EVIDENCE WAS OVERWHELMING!
CAN THE HISTRIONICS, LUTHOR! JUST GET ON WITH IT!
VERY WELL, OLSEN. WE'VE ALL BELIEVED THAT VANDAL SAVAGE IS OUR EMPEROR... AND THAT HE'S ALWAYS BEEN OUR EMPEROR!
BUT HE HASN'T! ACTUALLY, HE ONLY TOOK CONTROL OF OUR WORLD SEVEN DAYS AGO!
IMPOSSIBLE! I REMEMBER HIM WHEN I WAS A CHILD...
SO DO WE ALL! BUT LISTEN-- AS SAVAGE'S CHIEF SCIENTIST I WAS INSTRUCTED TO PERFECT A WORKING TIME-MACHINE!
WHEN I ATTEMPTED TO TEST THE DEVICE, I ACCIDENTALLY LEARNED WHAT HAD REALLY HAPPENED!
"YOU REMEMBER THE LEGENDS OF VANDAL SAVAGE. HE WAS A CAVEMAN NAMED VANDAR ADG WHO WAS STRUCK BY A FALLING FIREBALL FROM SPACE..
"ITS UNEARTHLY RADIATION CHANGED HIM. HE BECAME IMMORTAL. HE BECAME A MAN WHO WOULD LIVE FOREVER!
8

"SAVAGE BECAME A CONQUEROR, A LEADER OF MEN... AND FINALLY THE KING OF ANCIENT SUMER."
WIZARD! YOU ARE THE GREATEST OF ALL ORACLES! I DEMAND YOU SHOW ME THE FUTURE!
I DEMAND TO SEE NOW THE WORLD THAT ONE DAY I SHALL RULE!
BUT WHICH WORLD, GREAT KING? THERE ARE MANY LANDS... MANY EARTHS!
WE LIVE ON ONE SUCH EARTH... A WORLD THAT ONE DAY SHALL BE CALLED EARTH-TWO!
HOLD ON, LUTHOR! WHAT'S THIS EARTH-TWO NONSENSE?
THERE ARE MANY EARTHS, OLSEN... ALL EXISTING IN THE SAME PLACE BUT VIBRATING AT DIFFERENT SPEEDS!
NOW, QUIET! HEAR ME OUT!
YOU SHALL BATTLE THESE FOES, TIME AND TIME AGAIN, GREAT KING! BUT EACH TIME THEY SHALL DEFEAT YOU!
IS THERE ANY WAY TO CHANGE THE FUTURE?
NONE, GREAT KING...
...NOT ON THE WORLD OF YOUR BIRTH! BUT ON ANOTHER EARTH -- YES!
AS THE COURSE OF A GREAT RIVER CAN BE ALTERED, SO CAN YOU CHANGE THEIR FUTURE... AND YOU CAN LEAD IT WHERE YOU WISH IT TO GO!
SAVAGE LEARNED HE COULD CHANGE OUR EARTH'S FUTURE... BY PLANTING SEVERAL DEVICES HE CALLED TIME-BOMBS IN OUR PAST.
9

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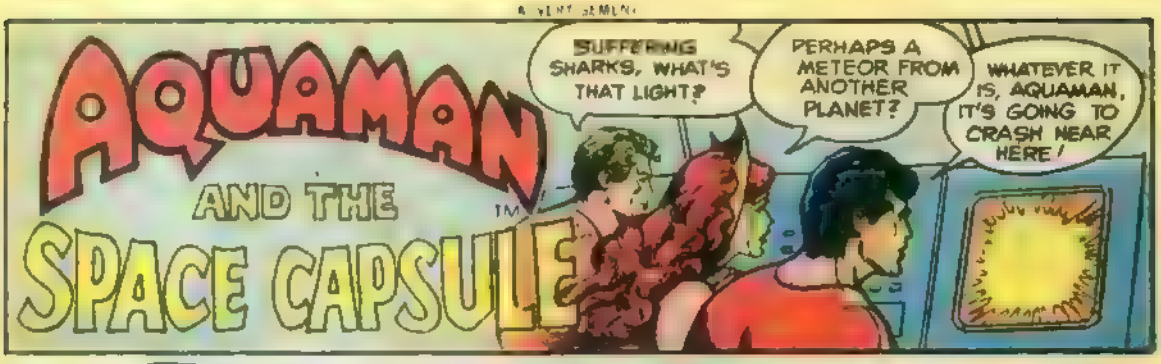
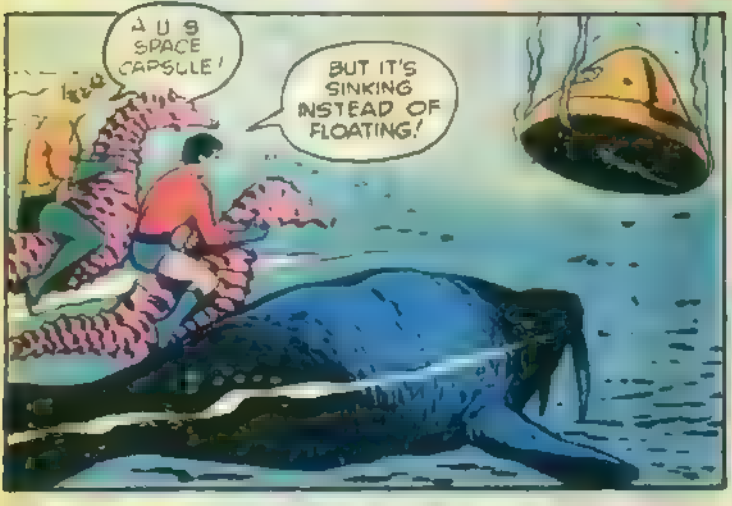
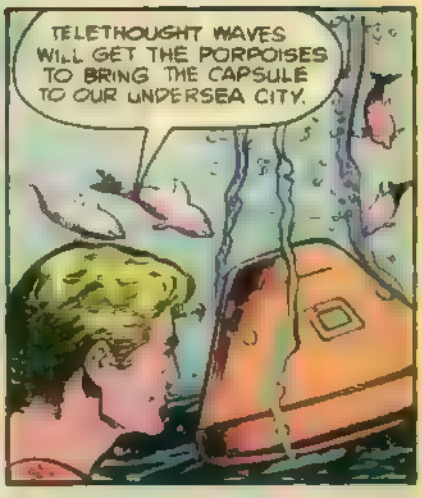
AQUAMAN AND THE SPACE CAPSULE™


SUFFERING SHARKS, WHAT'S THAT LIGHT?
PERHAPS A METEOR FROM ANOTHER PLANET?
WHATEVER IT IS, AQUAMAN, IT'S GOING TO CRASH NEAR HERE!





WE LIVE BENEATH THE SEAS OF YOUR OWN PLANET--EARTH.
WE CAN PROVE IT -- LOOK!
HOSTESS® FRUIT PIES! REAL FRUIT FILLING. APPLE AND CHERRY-- MY FAVORITE
AND THE LIGHT, TENDER CRUST I LIKE SO MUCH

YOU GET A BIG DELIGHT IN EVERY BITE OF HOSTESS® FRUIT PIES

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THESE BOMBS WOULD ALTER OUR HISTORY.. SET IT IN THE DIRECTION HE WANTED IT TO GO!
SO HE JUST EXPLODED THESE THINGS?
NO! THAT WASN'T POSSIBLE!
JUST AS A HYDROGEN BOMB REQUIRES AN ATOM BOMB INSIDE IT TO ACT AS ITS TRIGGER, SAVAGE NEEDED AN ENERGY-SOURCE POWERFUL ENOUGH TO TRIGGER HIS BOMB!
AND THAT POWER DIDN'T EXIST-- UNTIL THE COMING OF SUPERMAN!
SAVAGE PLANTED HIS MOST RECENT BOMB MONTHS AGO AND THEN SET OUT TO FORCE SUPERMAN TO USE HIS SUPER-ENERGY!
HE CREATED THREE VOLCANIC EMERGENCIES! FIRST MOUNT ST HELENS, THEN IN LAKE HENRY, FINALLY LAST WEEK, IN JAPAN'S MOUNT FUJIYAMA!
EACH TIME SUPERMAN FOUGHT TO CONTROL THOSE VOLCANOES, HE EXPENDED ENERGY ...WHICH SAVAGE STORED!
"SUPERMAN'S ENERGY EXPLODED SAVAGE'S TIME-BOMB... ALTERING OUR MODERN WORLD...
"...INSTANTLY CHANGING IT INTO AN EARTH RULED BY VANDAL SAVAGE!"
10

SAVAGE HAD SUCCEEDED IN CHANGING OUR HISTORY..BUT ONLY THE HISTORY OF MODERN EARTH!
HE HAD TO HAVE SUPERMAN EXPLODE ALL HIS TIME-BOMBS, OR REAL HISTORY WOULD SOON CATCH UP TO HIM!
SAVAGE BROUGHT LOIS LANE INTO HIS NEW CASTLE... HE KNEW SUPERMAN WOULD FALL IN LOVE WITH HER..
AND HE NEEDED THAT EMOTIONAL COMMITMENT..
..SO WHEN SAVAGE FINALLY KILLED LOIS, SUPERMAN WOULD BE WILLING TO FOLLOW HIM BACK THROUGH TIME IN ORDER TO EXACT REVENGE!
AND, AS SUPERMAN FLEW BACK IN TIME AND USED HIS POWERS TO TRY TO CAPTURE SAVAGE, HE WOULD UNWITTINGLY IGNITE THE REST OF SAVAGE'S TIME-CHANGING BOMBS!
IN EFFECT, IT IS SUPERMAN HIMSELF WHO IS CHANGING HISTORY!
IT'S INCREDIBLE... BUT FOR SOME REASON I BELIEVE YOU!
SOMEHOW WE'VE GOT TO STOP SUPERMAN FROM USING HIS POWERS, OR HE WILL HAVE CHANGED HISTORY--FOREVER!
BUT HOW--HOW?!?

ONCE I LEARNED THE TRUTH, I BUILT TWO TIME-TRAVEL MACHINES...
I INTENDED TO STOP SAVAGE MYSELF- BUT YOU WOULD STAND A BETTER CHANCE!
IF THIS WORKS, LUTHOR, YOU'LL BE A WORLD HERO!
ALL I WANT IS SAVAGE TO BE STOPPED!
THAT WILL BE REWARD ENOUGH!
YOU YOUNG FOOL! THOUGH EVERYTHING I TOLD YOU WAS THE TRUTH--
I LEFT OUT ONE IMPORTANT FACT!
WHEN I LEARNED SAVAGE'S PLAN, I MADE AN ALTERATION IN HIS FINAL TIME-BOMB!
WHEN IT EXPLODES... WHEN IT CHANGES THE COURSE OF HISTORY FOREVER--
--NOT ONLY WILL IT DESTROY SAVAGE, OLSEN, AND SUPERMAN--
--BUT LUTHOR SHALL BECOME EMPEROR OF THE EARTH!
HA! HA! HA! HA!
12

AN INDETERMINATE TIME HAS PASSED...SUPERMAN AWAKENS WITH A START, CLEARS THE COBWEBS FROM HIS MIND, THEN LAUNCHES HIMSELF SKYWARD...
SAVAGE HIT ME WITH HAD THE IMPACT OF A KRYPTONITE BOMB!
THAT MEANS HE FOR OUR FIGHT! BUT HOW COULD HE KNOW--?
I CAN TELL YOU THAT, SUPERMAN!
JIM?! HOW DID YOU GET BACK HERE TO THIS TIME-PERIOD?
THIS IS ALL A TRAP, SUPERMAN! SAVAGE LURED YOU HERE TO FORCE YOU TO USE YOUR POWERS!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
SIT DOWN, PAL... THIS IS GONNA TAKE A LOT OF EXPLAINING!
AND AS SOON AS JIMMY COMPLETES HIS STORY...
IF THAT'S ALL TRUE, THEN I'VE GOT TO STOP IT'S TOO LATE!
SUPERMAN'S LEAVING ME BEHIND! BUT THIS TIME I CAN FOLLOW HIM THROUGH TIME!
THE YEAR IS A.D. 92. THE PLACE, THE MID-ATLANTIC OCEAN...
GREAT KRYPTON! I DON'T KNOW HOW SAVAGE CREATED THOSE FLYING DRAGONS--
-- BUT, AS LONG AS I'M AROUND, THEY'RE NOT GOING TO BE HIS AGENTS OF DESTRUCTION!
THERE IS PANIC ABOARD THE LEAD VESSEL-- PANIC FOR ALL BUT ONE, THAT IS...
SUPERMAN'S FALLEN FOR MY RUSE! HE BELIEVES MY ILLUSIONS ARE REAL!
AS SOON AS HE TRIES FIGHTING THEM, HE'LL SET OFF MY THIRD TIME-BOMB!
NO WAY, PAL-- I'M GONNA STOP YOU FIRST!
OLSEN?! I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU TRACKED ME HERE, BUT YOU'RE TOO LATE!
13
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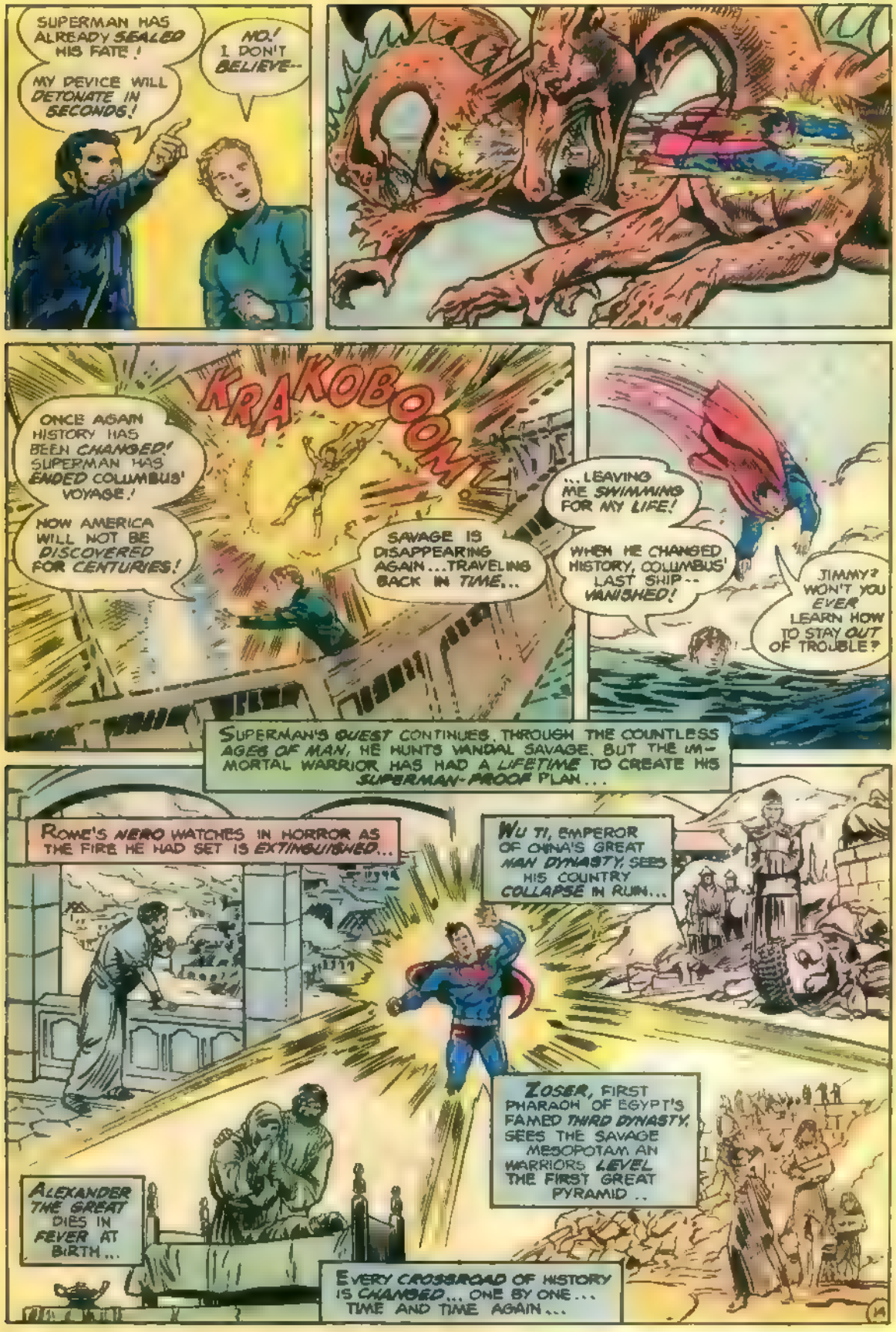

SUPERMAN HAS ALREADY SEALED HIS FATE!
MY DEVICE WILL DETONATE IN SECONDS!
NO! I DON'T BELIEVE--
KRAKOBOOM!
ONCE AGAIN HISTORY HAS BEEN CHANGED! SUPERMAN HAS ENDED COLUMBUS' VOYAGE!
NOW AMERICA WILL NOT BE DISCOVERED FOR CENTURIES!
SAVAGE IS DISAPPEARING AGAIN...TRAVELING BACK IN TIME...
...LEAVING ME SWIMMING FOR MY LIFE!
WHEN HE CHANGED HISTORY, COLUMBUS' LAST SHIP -- VANISHED!
JIMMY? WON'T YOU EVER LEARN HOW TO STAY OUT OF TROUBLE?
SUPERMAN'S QUEST CONTINUES, THROUGH THE COUNTLESS AGES OF MAN, HE HUNTS VANDAL SAVAGE, BUT THE IMMORTAL WARRIOR HAS HAD A LIFETIME TO CREATE HIS SUPERMAN-PROOF PLAN...
ROME'S NERO WATCHES IN HORROR AS THE FIRE HE HAD SET IS EXTINGUISHED...
WU TI, EMPEROR OF CHINA'S GREAT HAN DYNASTY, SEES HIS COUNTRY COLLAPSE IN RUIN...
ZOSER, FIRST PHARAOH OF EGYPT'S FAMED THIRD DYNASTY, SEES THE SAVAGE MESOPOTAMIAN WARRIORS LEVEL THE FIRST GREAT PYRAMID...
ALEXANDER THE GREAT DIES IN FEVER AT BIRTH...
EVERY CROSSROAD OF HISTORY IS CHANGED... ONE BY ONE... TIME AND TIME AGAIN...

PROTECTIVELY CARRYING JIMMY OLSEN IN HIS CAPE, SUPERMAN ONCE MORE SPINS A PATH THROUGH TIME.
WE'RE CLOSING IN ON SAVAGE! AUTHOR'S TIME-DETECTOR PUTS HIM IN THE MESOZOIC ERA!
AT LONG LAST, I THINK I'VE FIGURED OUT WHAT VANDAL SAVAGE IS UP TO!
I WONDER WHAT HE COULD POSSIBLY WANT BACK THEN?
SIGHT AND SOUND SEEM TO SHATTER AT ONCE -- THEN SUDDENLY...
THERE'S SAVAGE-- RIDING THAT PTERODACTYL AS IF HE WERE WAITING FOR US!
I HAVE BEEN, OLSEN! I'VE BEEN TRACKING YOU ALL THE TIME!
DO YOU SEE THAT FIREBALL, SUPERMAN? IT'S THE VERY ONE WHICH FIRST TURNED ME IMMORTAL!
IT HAS COME TO YOUR WORLD-- AND WHEN IT STRIKES ME AGAIN-- I WILL BECOME MASTER OF THE EARTH!
AND YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP ME, SUPERMAN-- FOR YOU'LL BE TOO BUSY BATTLING THESE PREHISTORIC PREDATORS!
COME ON SAVAGE-- YOU KNOW VERY WELL THESE DINOSAURS DON'T HAVE A FRACTION OF MY STRENGTH!
5

BESIDES, WHY SHOULD I WASTE MY TIME WITH THEM WHEN IT'S YOU I'M AFTER!
AS SUPERMAN ARCS OVER THE STAMPEDING BEHEMOTHS, VANDAL SAVAGE GIVES A BRIEF SMILE...
...AS DOES LEX LUTHOR NEARLY A QUARTER BILLION YEARS IN THE FUTURE!..
HE COUNTS THE SECONDS ANXIOUSLY ...IN MOMENTS HE WILL BECOME MASTER OF THE EARTH!
BUT AS SUPERMAN NARROWS IN ON THE PLUNGING FIREBALL..
WH-WHY ARE YOU CHANGING COURSE?! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO DESTROY THAT FIREBALL!
WHAT FOR, SAVAGE? YOU'RE ALREADY IMMORTAL ...YOU DON'T NEED TO BE-COME IMMORTAL A SECOND TIME!
I REALIZED YOU WANTED ME TO STOP THE FIREBALL... BECAUSE THE ENERGY I'D USE WOULD SET OFF YOUR FINAL BOMB!
TOUGH LUCK, SAVAGE... I WAS ABLE TO GUESS YOUR PLAN!
NOOAARGGHHH!
GREAT THUNDER! HE'S DISINTEGRATING!
NOT REALLY, JIM. SAVAGE IS AN IMMORTAL! THAT FIREBALL MERELY CHANGED HIM INTO PURE ENERGY!
A FORM HE'LL STAY IN FOR THE REST OF ALL TIME!

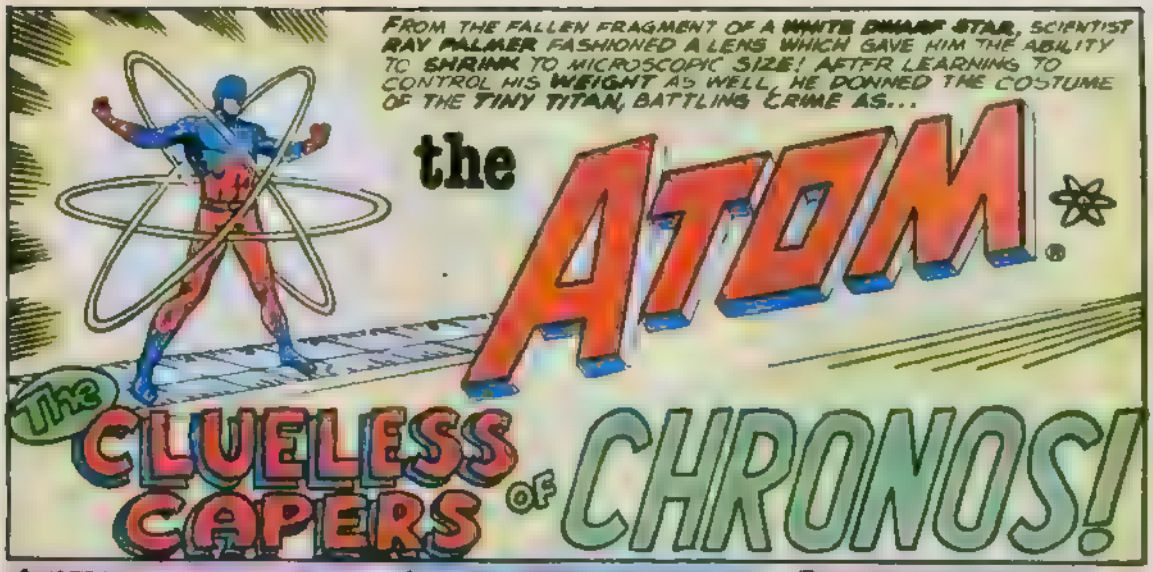
WE'RE VANISHING! SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG!
ON THE CONTRARY, JIM EVERYTHING IS GOING RIGHT!
WITH SAVAGE'S FINAL BOMB UNDETONATED, TIME IS RETURNING TO NORMAL--
--RETURNING TO THE WAY IT WAS BEFORE SAVAGE BEGAN HIS SINISTER SCHEME!
WE'RE BACK IN METROPOLIS...THE REAL METROPOLIS ..THE WAY IT'S ALWAYS BEEN!
HEELLLPPP
THAT SCREAM!
IT'S LIKE MUSIC TO MY EARS!
IT'S LOIS, AND IN THIS REAL TIME, SHE'S NOT DEAD!
SUPERMAN? I--I WAS TRYING TO OPEN A WINDOW... LOST MY BALANCE...
BUT SOMEHOW I KNEW YOU'D SAVE ME... IN TIME...
HI, LOIS-- LONG TIME NO SEE!

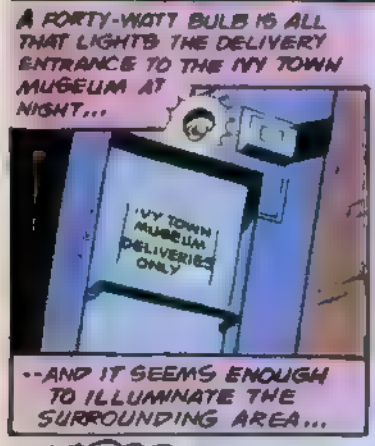
NEXT ISSUE: A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS STORY!

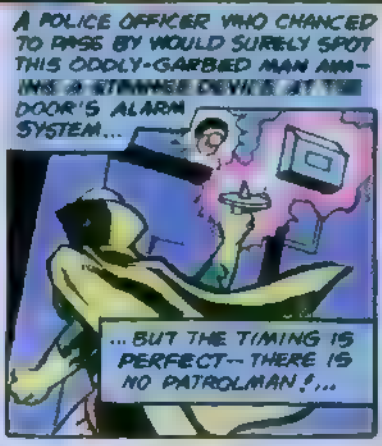
AT THE TIME WHEN WE CELERATE PEACE ON EARTH, THERE IS WAR IN THE COSMOS--CAUSING **SUPERMAN** TO TAKE A HAND IN "THE **WAR** FOR PEACE!"

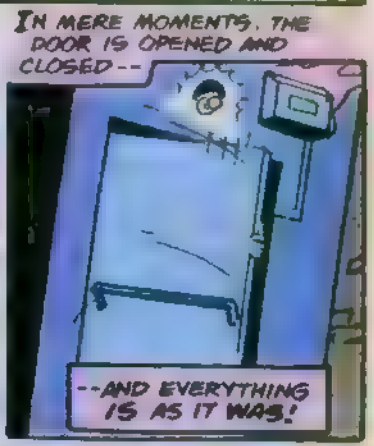
ON SALE DEC 11! IT'S A DATE!

DIAL "H" FOR HERO --THE COMIC YOU CREATE--BEGINS AS A FREE BONUS IN LEGION #272--ON SALE NOW!


FROM THE FALLEN FRAGMENT OF A WHITE DWARF STAR, SCIENTIST RAY PALMER FASHIONED A LENS WHICH GAVE HIM THE ABILITY TO SHRINK TO MICROSCOPIC SIZE! AFTER LEARNING TO CONTROL HIS WEIGHT AS WELL, HE DONNED THE COSTUME OF THE TINY TITAN, BATTLING CRIME AS...
the ATOM
The CLUELESS CAPERS of CHRONOS!


A FORTY-WATT BULB IS ALL THAT LIGHTS THE DELIVERY ENTRANCE TO THE IVY TOWN MUSEUM AT NIGHT...
IVY TOWN MUSEUM DELIVERIES ONLY
--AND IT SEEMS ENOUGH TO ILLUMINATE THE SURROUNDING AREA...


A POLICE OFFICER WHO CHANCED TO PASS BY WOULD SURELY SPOT THIS ODDLY-GARBED MAN AIMING A STRANGE DEVICE AT THE DOOR'S ALARM SYSTEM...
...BUT THE TIMING IS PERFECT--THERE IS NO PATROLMAN!...



HAHA! ONCE AGAIN MY TIME-FREEZER HAS MADE TIME STAND STILL FOR AN ALARM-SYSTEM...
...MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE TO DETECT MY BREACH OF ITS DEFENSES--EH?!
IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU SHOWED UP, CHRONOS!! I WAS GETTING TIRED OF WAITING!

BOB ROZAKIS WRITER * ALEX SAVIUK PENCILLER * VINCE COLLETTA INKER * MILT SNAPINN LETTERER * JERRY SERPE COLORIST * JULIUS SCHWARTZ EDITOR

I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU FIGURED THIS RARE-COIN CAPER, ATOM--
--BUT YOU WON'T LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO BRAG ABOUT IT!
WAK
CLICK
THAT BLOW WOULD HAVE MEANT "LIGHTS OUT" FOR ME IF I HADN'T CLICKED MY WEIGHT DOWN IN TIME!
INSTEAD, IT WAS LIKE HITTING A FEATHER--
--AND I CAN FLOAT TO A SOFT LANDING IN THIS TREASURE-CHEST DISPLAY!
WHAT? STILL CONSCIOUS?
MONEY DOESN'T GO AS FAR AS IT USED TO--
--BUT I'LL GIVE IT A GOOD TRY!
THAT'S A BUM JOKE, ATOM-- AND A BUM THROW!
SEE HOW EASILY I DUCK AWAY--!
AND SEE HOW EASILY I CAN FAKE YOU OUT, CHRONOS--BY TAGGING A RIDE ON THAT COIN!
NO WAY YOU CAN AVOID THIS KNOCK-OUT PUNCH--

YEE-III!
ZZZZT
CHRONOS ALWAYS HAS A WAY -- THANKS TO MY ELECTRIFIED FORCE-SHIELD!
AN INDETERMINABLE AMOUNT OF TIME LATER...
AH, GOOD MORNING, ATOM! HAVE A GOOD SLEEP?
PERHAPS YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN ME IN BREAKFAST?
THAT'S PANCAKE SYRUP YOU'RE STUCK IN--
--AND ONE PUSH OF THIS BUTTON WILL CHOP YOU INTO A "SECRET INGREDIENT"!
YOU'VE REALLY GONE OFF THE DEEP-END, CHRONOS!
ON
OFF
PANCAKE SYRUP INSTEAD OF SOME KIND OF CLOCK-WEAPON?
PRECISELY! IT'S HIGH TIME I TURNED OVER A NEW LEAF -- SORT OF A "TIME-OUT" ON CLOCK GIMMICKS!
BY CHANGING MY MODUS OPERANDI, AS YOU LAW-TYPES LIKE TO SAY, NO ONE SUSPECTS I'M PULLING OFF THESE COIN ROBBERIES!
NO ONE EXCEPT YOU -- WHICH MEANS I MUST HAVE SLIPPED UP SOMEWHERE!
BUT I'M SURE THAT AFTER A WHILE YOU'LL BE SWEET ENOUGH TO TELL ME MY MISTAKE! HAHA!
MEANTIME, I'LL CHECK UP ON WHAT THE POLICE KNOW ABOUT MY CLUELESS ROBBERIES!
ABOUT THE ONLY COMEBACK I CAN THINK OF IS --
WHAT A STICKY SITUATION THIS TURNED OUT TO BE!

SHORTLY, IN THE OFFICE OF POLICE-LIEUTENANT FRANCO MADONNA...
I'VE GONE OVER THE COIN-THEFT REPORTS TIME AND AGAIN--AND STILL NO CLUE TO THE PERPETRATOR --
R-R-RING!
MADONNA HERE... WHA-- THE ATOM!
MORNING, LIEUTENANT!
I HEAR THE MYSTERIOUS COIN-CROOK PULLED OFF ANOTHER JOB LAST NIGHT!
YES...CAPER NUMBER FOUR--AND HE STILL HASN'T LEFT ANYTHING BEHIND AS TO HIS I.D. OR M.O.!
WHAT ABOUT YOUR HUNCH? DIDN'T PAN OUT, EH?
MY, ER...NO! IT ADDED UP TO NOTHING!
AMERICAN COINS THIS TIME, I SEE!
RIGHT! THE FIRST WAS SCANDINAVIAN CURRENCY, FOLLOWED BY FRENCH AND SPANISH!
ALL WE CAN GUESS IS THAT THIS IS A COIN COLLECTOR WITH A READY MARKET TO DUMP THE HOT MONEY!
NONE OF IT HAS TURNED UP SO FAR!
WELL, I'LL KEEP IN TOUCH--BUT RIGHT NOW I HAVE OTHER BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO!
MIND IF I PUT IN A CALL TO MY NEXT DESTINATION--?
GO RIGHT AHEAD...
BEEP
BE PATIENT, LT MADONNA! HE'LL SLIP UP ONE OF THESE DAYS!
I HOPE SO, ATOM!
What's that, reader? You're puzzled because YOU know that the ATOM has ALREADY found out CHRONOS is the coin-thief...?
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...then this scene at the other end of the line will enlighten you--
--as a mechanical hand lifts the receiver of the ringing telephone...
HAHAHAHA! FOOLED MADONNA COMPLETELY!
HE NEVER SUSPECTED I WASN'T THE REAL ATOM!
ALL I NEEDED TO FAKE HIM OUT WAS A DUPLICATE ATOM-COSTUME--AND MY ENEMY'S SIZE-CHANGING BELT...
...WHICH I "APPROPRIATED" BEFORE STICKING HIM IN THE BLENDER!
CUTE GAG, EH, ATOM--?
BY MASQUERADING AS YOU, I GOT A FIRST-HAND POLICE REPORT...
...AND THEY KNOW FROM NOTHING ABOUT--HUH?
HE'S GONE?!?
And if THIS turn of events has surprised you, reader--
--let's check back at Lt. Madonna's office...
EVERYTHING GO AS PLANNED, "LIEUTENANT"--
SURE DID, LIEUTENANT--
--HE NEVER SUSPECTED I WASN'T THE REAL LT. MADONNA!
CLIK!
CLIK!
NOW IF I CAN IMPOSE ON YOU TO TELEPHONE 555-8504, I'LL START ROUND TWO OF THIS OPERATION!
I HOPE IT ENDS WITH A KNOCKOUT, ATOM!

MOMENTS LATER, SOMEWHERE IN IVY TOWN...
RRINGG
WHO'D BE CALLING MY UNLISTED NUMBER--?
HELLO?...NO, SIR, I'M NOT INTERESTED IN ALUMINUM SIDING! YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG NUMBER --GOODBYE!
GOOD OL' MADONNA! HE PRETENDED TO BE A SALESMAN SO CHRONOS WOULDN'T SUSPECT THIS CALL IS BRINGING HIM COMPANY!
I'M GLAD I CHECKED THE PHONE NUMBER HERE AFTER I ESCAPED THE SYRUP!
WHEN I SAW MY BELT WAS GONE, I REALIZED WHY CHRONOS THOUGHT I WAS HELPLESSLY TRAPPED... UNABLE TO CHANGE SIZE AND ESCAPE!
BUT HE'S NOT AWARE OF THE INDEPENDENT BACK-UP CONTROLS IN MY GLOVES...
...WHICH ENABLED ME TO GET OUT WITH A SIMPLE CLICK!
NO SIGN OF THE ATOM--IN OR OUT OF THE BLENDER! HE MUST BE HUNTING FOR MY HIDEAWAY--
--UNAWARE THAT IT WAS RIGHT UNDER HIS NOSE!
AND SPEAKING OF MY HIDEOUT, IT'S TIME TO PUT AWAY MY CHRONOS COSTUME AND GO BACK TO BEING MR. AVERAGE CITIZEN!
BEEP!
HOW CLEVER OF ME TO BUILD A DEVICE WHICH CAN SHIFT THIS ROOM AND MYSELF TO ANOTHER TIME-DIMENSION!
THERE'S NO WAY ANYONE CAN EVER FIND MY STASH OF LOOT HERE...
...OR MY COSTUME!
THE POLICE CAN TURN MY APARTMENT INSIDE-OUT...
...AND STILL NOT FIND A SHRED OF EVIDENCE AGAINST ME!

THEY WILL AFTER I TELL THEM HOW TO GET HERE, CHRONOS!
THE ATOM--HERE?! AND CHANGING SIZE WITHOUT HIS BELT??
I'M JUST FULL OF SURPRISES!
AND WASN'T IT SMART OF ME TO WAIT TILL YOU HAD YOUR COSTUME OFF...SO YOUR FORCE-FIELD COULDN'T STOP ME?
GOT TO ADMIT IT--YOU SURE OUTSMARTED ME! HOW DID YOU EVER CATCH ON TO ME?
ARE YOU KIDDING? I WANT YOU TO MAKE THE SAME MISTAKES AGAIN--IF YOU EVER GET OUT OF JAIL!
WHUMP!
I WON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT...
...BECAUSE I'M NOT GOING TO JAIL!
ONE SHOT FROM MY TIME-FREEZER AND I'LL IMMOBILIZE YOU IN TIME FOREVER!
I HOPE CHRONOS NEVER LEARNS TO SHOOT FIRST--AND TALK LATER!
THAT'S ASSUMING YOU CAN HIT THE TARGET!
BZZP
OH, I'LL HIT YOU ALL RIGHT, ATOM--IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME!
TOO BAD YOURS JUST RAN OUT!

WHA--?! THE TIME-FREEZER IS ENLARGING!?
HARDLY! YOU ARE SHRINKING... THANKS TO MY BELT WHICH YOU SO CONVENIENTLY STOLE AND THEN FORGOT YOU WERE WEARING!
BUT DON'T PANIC-- I'LL GET YOU BACK UP TO FULL SIZE AND RETRIEVE THE BELT...
...RIGHT AFTER I SEND YOU TO THE LAND OF NOD!
WAM
SOME TIME LATER, IN THE HOME OF MR. AND MRS. RAY PALMER...
...AND WHAT CHRONOS DIDN'T REALIZE, JEAN, WAS THAT HE WENT TOO FAR STEERING SUSPICION AWAY FROM HIMSELF!
WHEN HE STOLE THE SCANDINAVIAN COINS, HE DIDN'T TAKE A SINGLE SWEDISH KRONA OR NORWEGIAN AND DANISH KRONEN!
SOUNDED TOO MUCH LIKE CHRONOS, HMM?
RIGHT! BUT I DIDN'T MAKE THE "TIME" CONNECTION TILL THE SECOND AND THIRD ROBBERIES!
THAT'S WHEN HE LEFT BEHIND ALL THE FRENCH CENTIMES AND SPANISH CENTIMOS!
THAT'S MY HUSBAND, THE GREAT DETECTIVE! AND THAT'S WHY YOU DESERVE A HEARTY, IF LATE, BREAKFAST...
...PANCAKES AND LOTS OF SYRUP!
SYRUP--?
BLECCHH!
NEXT ISSUE:
AQUAMAN